

Docket Number: 061063-0317066


PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: OSP-18862

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

AKIRA OKUBO, et al.

Group Art Unit: 4148

Application No.: 10/544,178

Examiner: MOORE, WHITNEY

Filed: April 24, 2006

Confirmation No.: 8571

For: INSPECTION METHOD, MANUFACTURING METHOD OF PIECE FOR ANALYSIS, ANALYSIS METHOD, ANALYZER, MANUFACTURING METHOD OF SOI WAFER, AND SOI WAFER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicant with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

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The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the Japanese Office Action dated April 7, 2009 is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note, Japanese Publication No. 7-201975 and JP 2001-319954 cited in the Office Action are not attached and not listed on the Form PTO-1449 since they were previously filed in Information Disclosure Statements on April 24, 2006. The European corresponding reference 0 738 004 was filed for JP 2001-319954.

Also, the article entitled "Recent technologies for analysis and evaluation of solid surface and minute region" cited in the Office Action is not attached and not listed on the Form PTO-1449 since it was previously filed in an Information Disclosure Statement on April 6, 2007.

An English-language abstract and translation of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully Submitted,
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